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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted to Group Art Unit 3726, 703-872-4303, addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

Date: April 21, 2003

  
Sonia V. McVeen

PATENT  
36856.226

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Takaaki ASADA

Serial No.: 09/421,434 ✓

Filed: October 19, 1999

Title: METHOD FOR SCREENING  
PIEZOELECTRIC TRANSFORMER  
APPARATUS

Art Unit: 3726

Examiner: D. Tugbang

SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 31, 2002, please reconsider the above-identified application in view of the following remarks.

Claims 1 and 3-20 are pending in this application.

In the Advisory Action mailed on April 14, 2003, the Examiner alleged that the amendment to the specification, "appears to introduce new matter into the specification as it appears that the specification, as originally filed, did not provide support for the number of driving cycles being at '600,000 cycles'. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

The paragraph bridging pages 12 and 13 of the specification, as originally filed, clearly and specifically provides support for the number of driving cycles being at 600,000 cycles. Particularly, lines 2 and 5 of the paragraph bridging pages 12 and 13 of the specification, as originally filed, disclose "600,000 cycles." Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the amendment to the specification does **NOT** introduce new matter into the specification, and that 600,000 driving cycles is clearly supported by the

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specification, as originally filed.

In view of the foregoing Remarks and the Amendment filed on April 2, 2003, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1 and 14 are allowable over the prior art for the reasons described above. Claims 3-13 and 15-20 are dependent upon claims 1 and 14, respectively, and are therefore allowable for at least the reasons that claims 1 and 14 are allowable.

In view of the foregoing Remarks and the Amendment filed on April 2, 2003, Applicant respectfully submits that this Application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are respectfully solicited.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-1353.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 21, 2003

  
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